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principle of the priority of discovery. Of course this might, in effect, have deprived the Portuguese of any advantages from the Demarcation Bull if a Spanish explorer could have done immediately what was accomplished by Magellan's expedition. But that possibility was hardly contemplated. The Bull of September 25 reads as if it were intended merely to supplement that of May 4, not to abrogate it. Mr. Harrisse feels that there is some ground for suspecting the authenticity of this Bull of Extension, but, on the whole, he is inclined to accept it as genuine. That it was not invoked to defend the Spanish claims to the Moluccas is, perhaps, slightly unfavorable to its authenticity, but when that question arose everybody seemed to take for granted the extension of the Torde-sillas line to the other side of the world.

Those who are interested in the theoretical question as to where the Demarcation Line should have been drawn,—a problem quite beyond sixteenth-century science,—will find in the notes very careful calculations of the various questions according to methods devised by the author's friend, M. Bauvieux. Besides these mathematical discussions, the notes contain that wealth of bibliographical references which makes every student of Mr. Harrisse's books his grateful debtor. Many readers will be glad too for the apparently complete list of Mr. Harrisse's writings on the period of the discoveries.

EDWARD G. BOURNE.

L'Économie Sociale de la France sous Henri IV., 1589-1610. By GUSTAVE FAGNIEZ. (Paris : Hachette et Cie. 1897. Pp. 428.)

THIS is a history "with a purpose." The professed object of the writer is to show "in what manner a people is able to lift itself up from decadence, in what measure its own forces are sufficient for that purpose, and how far it has need for those of its government." Such an ulterior purpose might seem to leave but little room to expect a work of true historical investigation. Yet Mr. Fagniez has written a book which is scholarly, learned and unprejudiced to an unusual degree. The resolution of the paradox is to be found in the fact that he has chosen for his study a period in which the restoration of order after anarchy and the intelligent efforts of an active and benevolent king combined to bring a country from a condition of almost complete despair to a comparatively high state of prosperity. In writing of the economic history of the period of Henry IV. of France, the historian may very well give a plain and moderate account of the efforts made for settlement and improvement, and at the same time be preaching a vigorous sermon on the advantages of a benevolent despotism.

The book consists of four chapters, on rural economy, manufactures, and external and internal commerce, respectively. The starting-point in each of these fields is the same, the chaos resulting from the civil wars. If it is in the rural districts it is the persistent brigandage of the nobles, but half converted from their accustomed guerrilla warfare. and of bands of

soldiery whose support is not yet provided for under conditions of peace ; or, it is the cutting down of the forests, or the disproportionately small number of farm cattle due to the ravaging of the war, or the crushing taxation. If it is in the towns, it is the ruin left by successive sackings, the emigration of ruined artisans and the immigration of homeless peasants. If it is in the field of commerce, it is the same story ; roads overgrown and washed out and without bridges ; rivers whose navigation is obstructed almost equally by bars and shallows and by unauthorized dams and seigneurial tolls. The furrows of the war had been ploughed deep across every part of the field of French prosperity, and it was this condition of disintegration which gave all its conditions to the king's policy.

Alongside of these ravages of the war, it was, of course, necessary to describe the more normal elements in the social conditions and economic activity of France at the close of the sixteenth century ; the classes of the people, their legal and economic relations, some of the more influential institutions, and the prevailing occupations which gave support to the people and the government. These conditions, normal and abnormal, being given, the main task is to trace the work of the government in modifying them.

Much of the influence of government on social conditions was exerted indirectly through its efforts for the restoration of order. Every field of industry responded to the profound peace which France now enjoyed. Abuses which had grown up during the confusion of civil war might linger on, and act as an obstruction to the prosperity of certain localities or certain occupations, but after all society would conform itself to them ; they would become relatively less important ; and as a matter of fact were little by little absolutely removed by the efforts of government. A good instance of this process is to be found in the policy of the government in regard to the carrying of fire-arms. As a part of the abolition of unauthorized warfare this was prohibited entirely to all persons in 1598. But this action interfered with the hunting rights of the nobility ; it was modified by the liberal issue of dispensations, and in 1601 permission was given to landowners to carry fire-arms for hunting on their own estates. Old habits, however, were too strong, and gentlemen took advantage of this new permission to settle personal and party quarrels violently and thus disturb the general security and order. Therefore in 1603 the use of fire-arms was again altogether forbidden. But by the next year habits of peace were presumed to be so far restored that the old liberty of using guns in private hunting was granted, and apparently without any subsequent ill-effects ; though the retention by the government of the monopoly of the manufacture and sale of all warlike weapons and of powder probably did its part to prevent outbreaks on a large scale.

But the greater part of M. Fagniez's work is devoted to a study of the more direct efforts of Henry to bring about greater prosperity by the creation of new industries or new conditions for the working of the old industries. The number of objects for which such efforts were made is remarkable. They are in every field. In law they range from the con-

ferring of commercial capacity on minors engaged in trade to the creation of "consular jurisdictions" for the settlement of disputes between merchants on commercial questions. Early in his reign he granted concessions and made regulations for the drainage of marshes and swamps throughout the kingdom ; this remained a subject of constant effort, and his plans were just being crowned with some degree of success at the time of his death. He devoted years of interest and effort to the introduction of the silk-worm, the production of silk thread and of silk fabrics. He spent the value of many millions of francs on the repair of roads, bridges and canals, and induced local authorities to expend perhaps as much more. He patronized a great commercial expedition formed in 1604 to trade with the East Indies, besides many other schemes of trading and colonial expansion. He negotiated with all other European rulers, from James I. of England to the Barbary pirates, in favor of trade. Scores of projects for agricultural, industrial, commercial, or legal novelties were presented to him or initiated by him. In fact, no scheme that promised any kind of economic development, no proposition for a modification of the law that would facilitate trade, give security to finance, or freedom to men's economic activity, failed to obtain from Henry interest or consideration, and in many cases support. "Reduction of the *taille*, remission of arrears of taxes, liberty of local export of grain, exemption of the farm live stock and agricultural implements from seizure for taxes, opportunity for the parishes to regain their common lands, establishment of relays where farmers should be able to obtain horses, drainage of the marshes, reform of the administration of the forests—this is what agriculture owed to him." And there is some such account for each of the other great industrial fields.

Many of these plans were fruitless. The long-continued and expensive effort to introduce the culture of the silk-worm, for instance, seems to have been practically without result. The same is true of many of the projects for new manufactures. Again much of his policy was vacillating, as, for instance, his treatment of the trade corporations and guilds. And again some of it, especially in financial lines, was distinctly reactionary. Yet, as M. Fagniez says, one must nevertheless admire "his openness of mind, his ready comprehension of new matters, his confidence in the success of new enterprises, his perseverance in sustaining them, his attention to economy combined with the taste for grandeur, his application to the development of all the resources of his kingdom, which has been well compared to that of a proprietor in increasing the value of his estate." And coming back to the main thesis of his book the author closes by saying : "The economic renaissance of which the last years of the reign were a witness, France owed, no doubt, largely to herself, but she owed them still more to her government. Such a study as we have made does not, therefore, give support to the doctrine of fatalism, which now finds so much favor, nor to the scarcely less popular teaching that governments have but little influence and therefore but little importance. It teaches us, on the contrary, for our

consolation and our hope, that a people, through the force of its energy, may climb again the slope of decadence ; and that nothing can aid it more than an authority which is strong and respected, passionately devoted to the public interest, imposing respect upon individual interests, opening new avenues for national activity, stimulating its hesitations, and sustaining its weaknesses."

It remains to say that Sully drops into an unwonted unimportance in this study ; that the author shows manufactures and commerce, as compared with agriculture, to have obtained a much greater attention than is generally taught ; and, finally, that the position of France in Europe is stated with a modesty quite unusual for a French author. The book has a good analytical index. In fact, our principal criticism, and that is perhaps a somewhat impertinent one, is that the size of the book, its weight, its broad margins, and luxuriousness of paper and print seem somewhat disproportioned to the plain subject and style of the work.

EDWARD P. CHEYNEY.

Beiträge zur Geschichte der politischen Ideen und der Regierungspraxis. Von GOTTFRIED KOCH. I. Absolutismus und Parlamentarismus ; II. Demokratie und Constitution. (Berlin : R. Gärtners. 1892, 1896. Two vols., pp. viii, 184 ; viii, 242.)

THE work before us, so far as yet published, deals only with England and France and covers the period between the reign of Louis XIV. and the beginning of the French Revolution. The book is a history not only of political ideas but also of political institutions, including under the latter term administrative machinery and practice. The author's plan includes not only political theories, but also the political facts of which they are the reflection or against which they are a protest. The first two chapters, dealing with the period of Louis XIV., may serve as a sample of the author's method. The first chapter, thirteen pages in length, is an examination of the theory of the absolute monarchy as it is laid down in contemporary writers, foremost among them Bossuet. Then follows a chapter forty pages long, entitled "Art der Regierung Louis XIV." The topics treated of in this chapter embrace the central government, including the several councils of the crown, the organization of provinces, districts and municipalities, judicial administration, police and taxation. Among the topics named some are treated in considerable detail. Under the head of justice, for example, not only are the parliaments described, but an account is also given of courts of inferior jurisdiction. It is evident that the treatment of these topics within such narrow compass must necessarily be very brief, so much so indeed as sometimes to raise the question whether there ought not to be either more or nothing. It is to be said, however, on the other hand that the information is accurate and that its presentation in this form will be a great convenience, especially to those who are limited either in time or in sources of information. Indeed the author has read widely and to the point, so that his pages often contain information which otherwise it would not be easy to find.